

CLAIMS

1. An image processing apparatus for processing an image based on an image data set including main image data that represents a main image,
5 reduced image data that represents a reduced image of the main image, and color space identification information that expresses a color space related to the main image data, the main image data and the reduced image data and the color space identification information being associated with one another, wherein the color space identification information can indicate which of
10 multiple color spaces including a prescribed standard color space and a particular color space is to be used, the image processing apparatus comprising:

a data processor configured to select either one of the main image data and the reduced image data as processing target image data, and to execute
15 processing including color space conversion to the processing target image data, wherein the data processor executes a prescribed basic color space conversion regardless of content of the color space identification information when the reduced image is the processing target, while the data processor executes a specified color space conversion utilizing a color space specified by
20 the color space identification information when the main image is the processing target.

2. An image processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the color space specified by the color space identification information is the
25 particular color space.

3. A method for processing an image, comprising the steps of:
(a) providing an image data set including main image data that represents a main image, reduced image data that represents a reduced image
30 of the main image, and color space identification information that expresses a color space related to the main image data, the main image data and the

reduced image data and the color space identification information being associated with one another;

(b) executing a prescribed basic color space conversion regardless of content of the color space identification information when the reduced image is

5 the processing target; and

(c) executing a specified color space conversion utilizing a color space specified by the color space identification information when the main image is the processing target.

10 4. An image processing method according to Claim 3, wherein the color space specified by the color space identification information is the particular color space.

15 5. A computer program product for reproducing an image based on an image data set including main image data that represents a main image, reduced image data that represents a reduced image of the main image, and color space identification information that expresses a color space related to the main image data, the main image data and the reduced image data and the color space identification information being associated with one another,
20 the computer program product comprising:

a computer-readable medium; and

a computer program stored on the computer-readable medium,

wherein the color space identification information can indicate which of multiple color spaces including a prescribed standard color space and a

25 particular color space is to be used,

the computer program have:

a function to execute a prescribed basic color space conversion regardless of content of the color space identification information when the reduced image is the processing target; and

30 a function to execute a specified color space conversion utilizing a color space specified by the color space identification information when the main image is the processing target.

6. A computer program product according to Claim 5, wherein the color space specified by the color space identification information is the particular color space.